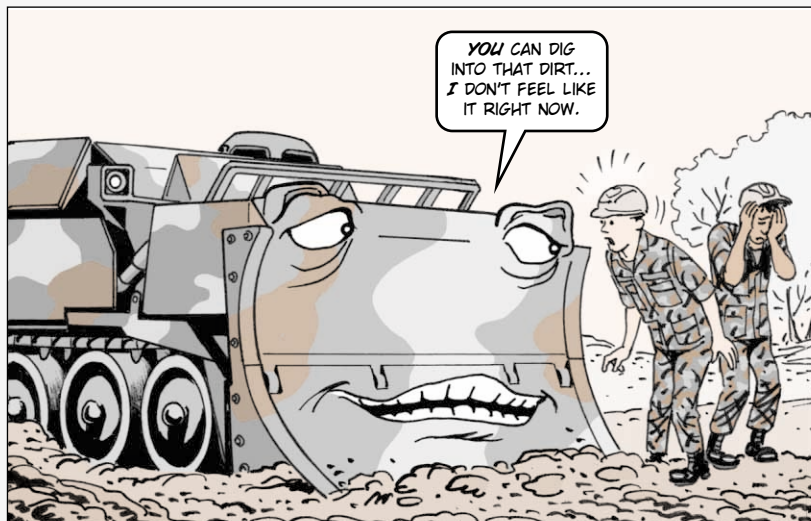


HYDRAULIC TIME-OUT



When it comes to a vehicle's hydraulics, the armored combat earthmover (ACE) is known for being temperamental—especially when digging in hard-packed dirt.

Experienced ACE operators have a rule about vehicle downtime: They take a break and shut down every two hours during operations. During that break, they check for problems—including hydraulic ones.

To make hydraulic checks easier before the day's run at the worksite, leave the earthmover's ejector out about two feet. With the ejector forward, there's enough room behind it to look for a busted compensation pump or a leak in the valve bank.

